the roll on spool **36**, it is passed over the forward edge of applying roller **60** and under the roller. After the initial threading operation, which is extremely simple, as predetermined lengths of tape are delivered and severed from the roll, as hereinafter described, the free end of the tape is always in position for the next application.

As best seen in FIG. 1, the free end of the tape is maintained against applying roller **60** by means of a guide block **74** which is pivotally mounted on lever **40** by a pin **76** and spring **78** and which has extending therefrom a leaf spring **79** which urges the tape against the roller **60** at all times.

As previously mentioned, a cam roller **52** is carried by lever **40** on pin **52** for engagement with a curved cam track or surface **82**, a portion of which is presented by a cam rail **80** on the face of member **20** and another portion of which is presented by a wire spring **96** which also serves to bias the pressure wheel link as hereinafter described.

As cam roller **52** engages cam track **82**, as member **20** rotates, lever **40** assumes a generally vertical, variable reciprocating motion which brings the tape applying roller **60** into and out of tape applying position.

Carried on the face of member **20** is a block **84** to which is fixed a cutting knife or blade **86**.

Also carried on the face of member **20** adjacent the cutting blade is a pressure wheel or roller **90** which is pivotally carried on an arm or link **92** which is pivoted to member **20** by pin **94**.

Link **92** is biased into operative position by a wire spring **96** which also serves to provide a portion of the cam track **82**. Spring **96** extends around a boss **97** on link **92** and around pin **98** on member **20** and has one end engaging link pivot pin **94** and the other end disposed to extend over the top of cam roller **52** toward the adjacent end of cam rail **80**. Thus, spring **96** and cam rail **80** cooperate to provide a substantially continuous cam track surface **82**.

Now to describe the operation of the device, in connection with a motion picture film splicer as previously mentioned for purposes of illustration.

After the tape has been placed on spool **36** and the retaining and locking bars **64** and **70**, respectively, have been positioned, the free end of the tape is threaded around applying roller **60** as previously described.

At this point a pair of film strip ends F to be spliced are placed in adjacent, abutting end to end relation on the deck **12** of support **10**.

At the start of the operating cycle the position of rotating member **20** is approximately at the position shown in FIG. 3.

At this point the motor is actuated and the rotating member rotates 360 degrees in a counterclockwise direction as shown in FIGS. 3–8.

As the member approaches the position of FIG. 4, lever **40** is urged downwardly by the camming action of cam roller **52** and cam track **82**. This caused applying roller to press the free end of the tape against the upper surfaces of the film strip ends to effect a splice. After the end of the tape has been applied to the surface, as member **20** continues to rotate through the positions of FIGS. 4 and 5 the movement of lever **40** continues so that roller **60** continues to press against the tape to continue to apply it to the surface.

As the member approaches the position of FIG. 6, cutting blade **86** moves into position and, while roller **60** is still applying pressure to the tape to hold it in place and maintain tension on the tape, the cutting blade severs the tape.

After member **20** has moved from the cutting position of FIG. 6 to the next position of FIG. 7 the pressure roller **90** is brought into engagement with the tape and this serves to smooth down the cut end of the tape to effect a perfect application of tape.

The member **20** then continues to rotate through the position of FIG. 8, where cam wheel **52** leaves cam track **82** to permit lever **40** to move upwardly, and then member **20** completes the cycle by returning to the position of FIG. 3 where a new cycle is commenced.

Thus, it will be appreciated that the entire operation is automatic and when the motor is actuated a complete cycle takes place. Of course, if desired, the device may be operated manually by replacing the motor and drive mechanism with a crank or other manual means for rotating the member **20**.

What is claimed is:

1. A device for applying a predetermined length of adhesive tape to a surface, comprising in combination:

(a) a support;

(b) a member mounted on said support for rotation about a fixed central axis;

(c) means for rotating said member about said axis;

(d) cam track means on said member;

(e) a tape holding spool carried by said member;

(f) a floating lever having one end pivotally connected to said support and having, intermediate its ends, an eccentric pin and slot connection with said member to accommodate variable reciprocal movement of said lever;

(g) said lever carrying at said one end thereof roller means engageable with said cam track means to cause the variable reciprocal movement of said lever relative to the rotation of said member;

(h) said lever carrying at its other end a tape applying roller engageable with a free end of said tape and operable upon the reciprocal and rotative movements of said lever and member, respectively, to urge said tape against said surface;

(i) cutting means carried by said member for severing said tape at a predetermined length after a free end of the tape has been applied to said surface;

(j) pressure roller means carried by said member operable to engage said severed length of tape and continue to press it against said surface.

2. A device for applying a predetermined length of adhesive tape to a surface, comprising in combination:

(a) a support;

(b) a member mounted on said support for rotation about a fixed central axis;

(c) means for rotating said member about said axis;

(d) cam track means;

(e) a tape holding spool;

(f) a floating lever having one end connected to said support and having, intermediate its ends, an eccentric pin and slot connection with said member to accommodate variable reciprocal movement of said lever;

(g) said lever carrying at said one end thereof cam means engageable with said cam track means to cause the variable reciprocal movement of said lever relative to the rotation of said member;

(h) said lever carrying at its other end a tape applying roller engageable with a free end of said tape and operable upon the reciprocal and rotative movements of said lever and member, respectively, to urge said said tape against said surface;

(i) cutting means carried by said member for severing said tape at a predetermined length after a free end of the tape has been applied to said surface.

3. A device according to claim **2**, and including a removable retaining bar carried by said member in generally parallel relation with said lever and operable to retain said tape in position.

4. A device according to claim **3**, and including a locking bar carried by said retaining bar and operable to lock said retaining bar in position.

5. A device according to claim **2**, wherein said lever is connected to said support by a link having one end pivoted to the lever and another end pivoted to the support.